IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Previously Presented) A method of filtering a collection (COL) of samples (Si), wherein the method comprises the steps of:

- distinguishing (DIS) between valid samples (Si+) and non-valid samples (Si-) on the basis of auxiliary data (AUX); and

- deriving (DER) filtered samples (So), which are associated with the valid samples (Si+), exclusively on the basis of the valid samples (Si+),

- deriving a filtered sample from a set of filter input values which is fixed in size; each filter input value being associated with a specific sample such that, if the sample is valid, the value of the sample is taken as the filter input value whereas, if the sample is not valid, a padding value is taken as the filter input value, the padding value being derived from at least one valid sample.

3. (Previously Presented) A method of filtering a collection (COL) of samples (Si), wherein the method comprises the steps of:

- distinguishing (DIS) between valid samples (Si+) and non-valid samples (Si-) on the basis of auxiliary data (AUX); and

- deriving (DER) filtered samples (So), which are

associated with the valid samples (Si+), exclusively on the basis of the valid samples (Si+),

-          forming a cluster of samples;

-          calculating a padding value on the basis of valid samples in the cluster;

-          forming a set of filter values by taking, for each valid sample, the value of that sample and by taking the padding value for each non-valid sample;

-          deriving a filtered sample from the cluster of filter input values.

4-5. (Cancelled).